

REMARKS

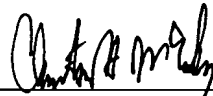
Consideration and allowance of the present application is respectfully requested. By this Amendment, claims 1-14 are amended to merely clarify the recited subject matter of the disclosed invention. Additionally, new claims 15-17 are added to more fully recite the claimed invention. No new matter is introduced by this Amendment, as new claims 15-17 are fully supported by the unamended claims and specification.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached Appendix is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,  
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Enclosure: Appendix

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At the top of the first page, just under the title, insert

--This application is the National Phase of International Application PCT/FI99/00868  
filed October 19, 1999 which designated the U.S. and that International Application was  
Published under PCT Article 21(2) in English.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-14 as follows:

1. (Amended) A digital telecommunication system [wherein terminals and a  
telecommunication network comprise speech codecs, the] comprising:  
a first centre configured to enable speech communication between a plurality of  
terminals, the first centre being associated with a calling terminal and including a first  
transcoder unit;

a second centre that is configured to enable speech communication between a plurality  
of terminals, the second centre being associated with a called terminal and including a second  
transcoder unit,

wherein the first and second transcoder units each include speech codecs [of the  
telecommunication network being disposed in a transcoder unit, from which a centre in the  
telecommunication network connects a transcoder for a speech connection, when required,  
**characterized** in that]

, the first centre [of the calling terminal] is [arranged] configured to perform handshaking  
with the second centre [of the called terminal], [said] the handshaking including [notification]  
indication of the speech codecs supported by the calling terminal, wherein at least one of the

first and second centres is configured to choose the speech codec used by the calling and called terminals, and wherein at least one of the first and second centres is [are arranged] configured to establish call connections [past] that bypass one or more of the transcoder [unit] units or to control the transcoder units to [let] transmit [the] encoded speech [through] between the called and calling terminals without performing speech encoding operations so that speech is encoded and decoded only in the terminals.

2. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in] of claim 1,  
[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein [said] the telecommunication system is a mobile communication system in which [said] the terminals [comprise] include mobile stations,  
[said] and the telecommunication system further [telecommunication network] comprises a mobile communication network and [said] at least one of the first and second centres is  
[centre of the telecommunication network comprises] a mobile switching centre.

3. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in] of claim 2,  
[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein:  
the mobile switching centre [comprises] includes a subscriber database [for maintaining] configured to maintain subscriber data [on] associated with a mobile subscriber [when the mobile station is located within the area of the mobile switching centre], and [said] the subscriber data [comprises] includes information [on] indicating the speech codecs supported by a mobile station associated with the mobile subscriber [subscriber's mobile station].

4. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in any one] of [claims] claim 1 [to 3], [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein [said] the handshaking is [carried out] performed as outband signalling.

5. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in] of claim 4,  
[characterized in that] wherein the first and second [mobile switching] centres are  
[arranged] configured to [carry out said] perform the handshaking in association with a  
routing information inquiry issued in response to a determination that the called terminal is  
[subscriber being] a mobile subscriber.

6. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in] of claim 5,  
[characterized in that] wherein:  
the first [mobile switching] centre [of the calling subscriber] is [arranged] configured  
to send [a] the routing information inquiry [comprising] including information [on] associated  
with the speech codecs supported by the [mobile station] calling terminal,

the second [mobile switching] centre [of the called subscriber] is [arranged]  
configured to select [for the call connection] a speech codec to be associated with the call  
connection which the calling and called terminals [mobile stations of both the called and  
calling subscribers] are configured to support, and

the second [mobile switching] centre [of the called subscriber] is [arranged]  
configured to send information [on said] associated with the speech codec [, selected for]  
associated with the call connection [,] in a reply message to the routing information inquiry.

7. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in] of claim 6,  
[characterized in that] wherein  
[said] the routing information inquiry and reply message to the routing information  
inquiry are [arranged] configured to pass via [the] a home database of the called [subscriber]  
terminal.



handshaking.

11. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in] of claim 10,  
[c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein

at least one of the first and second [mobile switching centre] centres is [arranged]  
configured to notify [the mobile station] the associated terminal of the speech codec to be  
used if it is not [the] a default speech codec of the [mobile station] associated terminal.

12. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in any one] of [the  
preceding claims] claim 1, [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein:

a pulse code modulated [(PCM)] digital link exists between the first and second  
[mobile switching] centres, and

the first and second [mobile switching] centres are [arranged] configured to control  
[the] their respective transcoder units [at the ends of said link] to adapt [the] an encoded  
speech signal to one or more least significant bits of PCM samples without transcoding.

13. (Amended) [A] The telecommunication system [as claimed in any one] of [claims]  
claim 1 [to 11], [c h a r a c t e r i z e d in that] wherein:

the system is configured to support a packet-switched link [exists] between the first  
and second [mobile switching] centres[, such as a network based on the ATM or IP  
technology], and

the first and second [mobile switching] centres are [arranged] configured to connect a  
call connection [past] that bypasses at least one of the transcoder [unit] units.

14. (Amended) A centre in a digital telecommunication network [, the centre being

[said] the centre is [arranged] configured to perform handshaking with [the] another centre associated with [of] a called terminal, [said] the handshaking including indication [notification] of [the] speech codecs supported by the calling terminal associated with the centre, the centre also being configured to choose the speech codec used by the terminals, and

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